

US 276

from Wilson Road (SR 1540) to South Carolina

Local ID: **TRAN0022-H**

Purpose: **Facility Deficiencies**

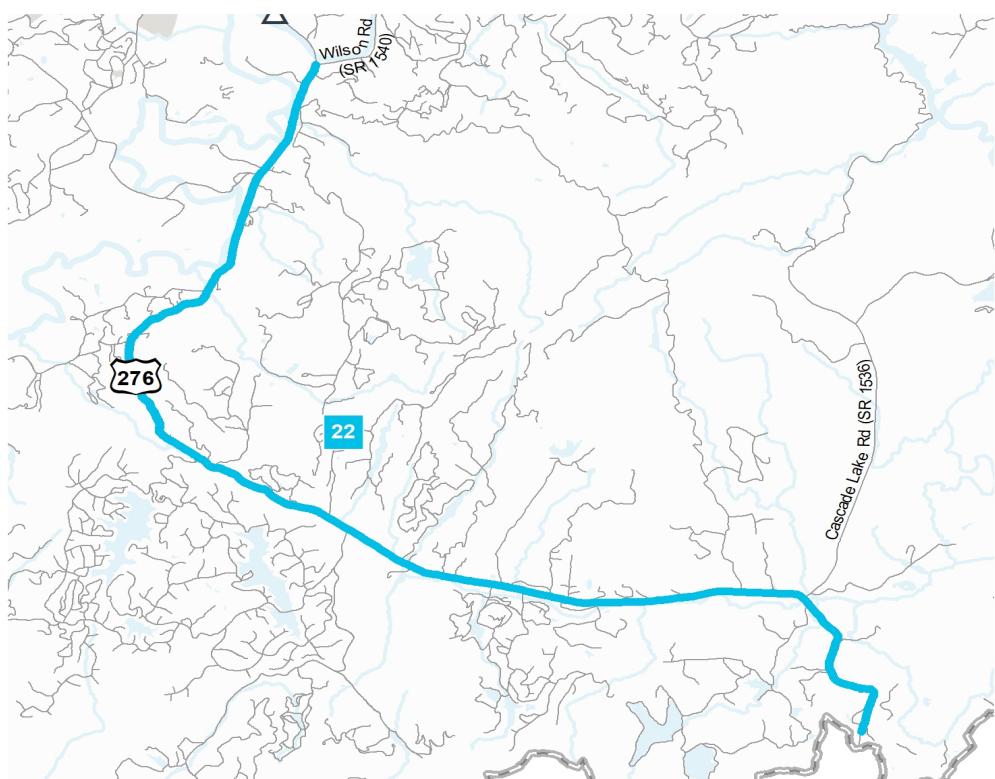
Improvement: **Improve Existing**

Identified Need

US 276 has no paved shoulder and lane widths of 10 feet.

Recommendation

Improve alignment, lane widths, and shoulders to current design standards, including 5-foot paved shoulders.



Local ID #	Improve	New Location	Local ID #	Improve	New Location
Congestion / Mobility	#	—	Interchange	⊙	□
Access Management / Operations	#	—	Bridge / Overpass	⊙	○
Modernization	#	—	Intersection	⊙	△
Other	#	—			

Proposal At A Glance

Highway Class	Modernization
Facility Type	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane
Typical Section	02 A
Section Options	-
Estimated Cost	-
Length (miles)	10.35
Existing ROW (feet)	60-80
Safety Risk Score	-

Proposal Data: 2017 Base Year 2045 Future Year

Improved Route	Existing	Without Proposal	With Proposal
<i>Facility Type</i>	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane	Major Thoroughfare 2-lane
<i>Travel Lanes</i>	2	2	2
<i>Volume (vpd)</i>	850-7200	1200-10800	-
<i>Capacity (vpd)</i>	15100	12100-15100	12100-15100

Capacity Data: Year

Facility will be Approaching Capacity (>80%)	-
Facility will be Over Capacity (>=100%)	-

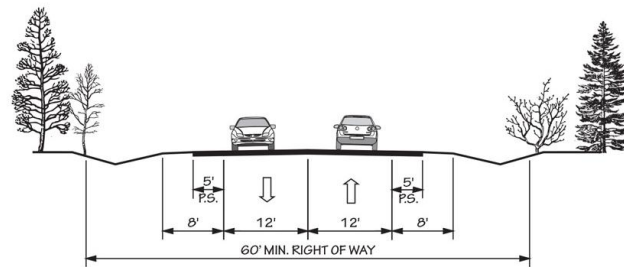


Typical Section Options:

None

TYPICAL SECTION No. 2A

2 LANE UNDIVIDED WITH PAVED SHOULDERS



POSTED SPEED 55 MPH

Project Overview

Linkage to Other Plans

According to the 2013 Blue Ridge Bike Plan, this facility is part of an "Other Bicycle Corridor" serving the region. According to the 2025 Transylvania County Comprehensive Plan, this facility is part of the "Regional On-Road Bicycle Routes" identified in that plan. It is classified as a minor arterial on the Federal Functional Classification System.

Multi-Modal Considerations

Transylvania County Transit, under the name "Transylvania in Motion" operates a fixed route as well as demand response system within the county. The deviated-fixed route does not reach this facility; however, it is within the demand-response area. In order to accommodate bicycles, 5-foot paved shoulders are recommended on this facility. The Transylvania County Bicycle Plan (2019) also recommends a multi-use path along part of this facility to connect rural destinations.

Goals & Objectives Survey

The citizens of Transylvania County responded to a public survey in early 2019 with a great deal of support for new greenways, sidewalks, and multi-use paths. When asked for their top three most important project types, these categories ranked first, third and fifth, out of a dozen choices. Rounding out the top five were maintenance and safety projects at second and fourth respectfully. When asked to rank transportation goals, the respondents gave two, preservation of the natural beauty and community character and increasing the number transportation mode choices, substantial net positive scores; improved connectivity, and economic development about neutral; and improved travel time was poorly scored, receiving over 50% of the lowest rank.

Relationship to Land Use

According to the 2025 Transylvania County

Comprehensive Plan (2017), the area around this project is a future Commercial Node. Areas with suitable land for commercial growth, but without access to public water and sewer are identified as commercial nodes. This designation along with appropriate policies will provide a framework for infrastructure expansion that will strengthen the confidence of public and private investors about the future of the land and their investment.

Natural & Human Environmental Context

Based on planning level environmental assessment using available GIS data, the proposed project intersects the French Broad River local watershed. According to LHI Guild Analysis, this project intersects multiple guilds of the Mesic Hardwood, Mixed Forest, Woodland, and Barrens variety. These are predominantly A-ranked resources with the balance being B-ranked. It is also within the vicinity of these Natural Heritage Areas and related conservation properties: the Dunns Rock, the Jim Raines Mountain & Connettee Falls, and the Little River Wetland Complex. It is also near other water bodies and wetlands.

The project is in proximity of three places of worship, two cemeteries, one medical facility, the historic Allison Farm, the historic Dunns Rock Crossroads, and the historic Cedar Mountain Summer Cottages.